

March 12, 2007

James Colter Remedial Project Manager (Code OPNEEV) Facilities Engineering Command, Mid-Atlantic Naval Facilities Engineering Command 9742 Maryland Avenue Norfolk, VA 23511-3095

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Re: Inclusion of Fill Area into Remedial Investigation Work at Installation Restoration Site NUSC Disposal Area, NETC

Dear Mr. Colter,

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Office of Waste Management (RIDEM) has reviewed the letter entitled Inclusion of Fill Area into Remedial Investigation Work at Installation Restoration Site 9, NUSC Disposal Area, NETC dated 16 February 2007.

Inspection of the site by RIDEM and Navy personnel revealed evidence of waste disposal up gradient of what was believed to be the southern extent of the landfill. The Navy's proposal is to clear the area, perform a geophysical survey, followed by test pits and collecting samples. This approach is acceptable to the Office of Waste Management with the following caveat. The figure attached to the February 16, 2007 letter depicts an additional fill area at the south east corner of the site. This is an area of recently uncovered surface debris immediately adjacent to the NUSC storage area. Evidence of dumping, including the fifty-five gallon drum, was found along a path in a vegetated area south / south west of the location labeled as additional fill area in the figure. The Office of Waste Management realizes that it is the Navy's intent to investigate the entire area where evidence of dumping is visible and that the location labeled as additional fill area simply represents what was recently cleared by NUSC personnel. Therefore, in order to avoid confusion in the field, the Navy may either submit a revised map, or simply note that the area to be cleared and investigated extends beyond the aforementioned area in the figure and will encompasses all areas to the south where there is evidence of dumping. Representative from RIDEM can be made available when this area is staked or during the clearing process.

Another area of potential concern uncovered during the inspection was the drains from the former storage area and the unknown lines from the storage areas to the adjacent wetlands. It was the Office of Waste Management understanding that the Navy intended to investigate these storage areas by reviewing engineering plans, tracking the pipes, performing dye test if needed, etc. Please indicate when this proposal will be submitted for approval

The Office of Waste Management looks forward to working with the Navy and the EPA in the investigation and remediation of this and other sites on the Newport Navy Base. If the Navy has any questions please contact RIDEM at (401) 222-2797, extension 7111.

Sincerely,

Paul Tulpa Paul Kulpa

Office of Waste Management

cc: Mathew DeStefano, DEM OWM

Richard Gottlieb, DEM OWM

Cornelia Mueller, NSN

Kymberlee Keckler, EPA Region I